(b) how this figure compares with the stocks held on 1st July in each year in 1985, 1986 and 1987;

(c) whether it is a fact that the buffer stocks as on 1st July, 1989 are substantially lower than the targets fixed by Government; and

(d) what steps are being taken to replenish the stocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) The total stocks (Operational and Buffer) of foodgrains (wheat, rice and coarse grains) with the public agencies in the different years was as under:—

(Quantity in Lakh tonnes)

Date	Foodgrains	Requirement of foodgrains under Buffer Stocking Policy
1.7.1985	286.69	214.00
1.7.1986	232.82	214.00
1.7.1987	232.69	214 00
1.7.1989	130.45	214 00

(c) and (d) Stocks on 1-7-89 were lower than those prescribed under the buffer stocking policy. However, there is regular replenishment of stocks through procurement operations in the country and the procuring agencies have been advised to maximise the procurement. In addition, contracts for import of 3.76 lakh tonnes of rice for supply before the end of September, 1989 have been executed. Simultaneously the available stocks are being utilized judiciously to meet the reasonable requirements of the Public Distribution System.

Increase in the quota of essential commodities to Maharashtra during the festival season

1298. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have sent proposal to increase the quota of rice, wheat and edible oils to that State during the festival season; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra has requested for additional allocation of 30,000 MTs of wheat and rice each for festival season. No additional allocation has, however, so far been made.

No specific request has been received from the Government of Maharashtra regarding increase in the quota of imported edilbe oils during the festival season.

Sharing of loss by Government in purchase of Onion in Maharashtra

1299. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have agreed to share the loss incurred in Onion purchasing in Maharashtra this year by Government of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, what is the total loss share of Government of India and whether this share has been released to Government of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Central Government have agreed to share 50% of losses on purchases of onion under Market Intervention Scheme at Rs. 60/- Per Quintal FAQ during the current marketing season of onion in 1989 to be purchased by the National Agriculture Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) as the Central Nodal agency and Maharashtra State Cooperative Marketing Federation as the State designated agency.

(b) NAFED have purchased 30,650 MTs of onion. Maharashtra State Cooperative Marketing Federation, the State designated agency, however, has not made any purchases under the scheme and therefore no share of loss is to be released to Maharashtra Cooperative Marketing Federation/ Maharashtra Government.

Illegal occupation of post premises by NFDC

1300. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Sunday Observer dated the 9th July, 1989 under the caption "NFDC occupying post premises illegally"; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Film Development Corporation has been in occupation of a total accommodation measuring 5420 sq. ft. in the ground floor of Dalamal Towers belonging to Swasti Produce Co. Pvt. Ltd. and Anusuya Arvind Trust, Bombay since May 1981 on lease for a period of five years. Till 1986, the Corporation had been a contractual tenant of the said premises and thereafter under the Bombay Rent Act NFDC has the status of a statutory tenant. Its occupation of the said premises is, therefore, not illegal. In fact, the owners have accepted rent from the Corporation up-to-date.

NFDC requires these premises for its own immediate and future growing activities. While discussions were in progress between the management of NFDC and the owners of the accommodation the latter filed a writ petition in Bombay High Court to recover the possession of the said accommodation, which has not been admitted.

Out of order Auto Cue Instrument in Bombay Doordarshan

1301. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Auto Cue Instrument in Bombay Doordarshan is out of order for the last several days; and

(b) if so, what action is being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) and (b) The Auto Cue system at Doordarshan Kendra, Bombay has been functioning satisfactorily since its installation except for a fault which developed on the 4th July, 1989. However, the fault was attended to immediately and the system put back into operation the very next day.

Knowledge of Marathi by Assistant News Reporters of Bombay Doordarshan

1302. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION